

Montana Office of Public Instruction

Traffic Education Program Description

www.opi.mt.gov/drivered

Purpose: The Traffic Education program is designed to develop, administer and supervise a statewide program of instruction in high school traffic education.

- Policy: Promote and assist all Montana high school districts in offering and conducting high-quality, low-cost traffic education courses for all eligible, young, novice drivers within their geographic boundaries.
- Curriculum: Assist schools in developing, strengthening and implementing a comprehensive, sequential, skills-based traffic education program which results in injury prevention and improved risk management. Local curriculum must meet and/or exceed all state traffic education requirements and guidelines.
- Teacher Training: Provide and/or sponsor high quality pre and in-service training and education so teachers can acquire and maintain the skills they need to provide effective traffic education programming.
- Leadership: Provide the leadership to establish effective traffic education programs throughout the state.
- Technical Assistance: Provide technical assistance to administrators and instructional staff by answering daily questions about program requirements, teaching methods, instructional materials, the "Cooperative Driver Testing Program," program scheduling, vehicle procurement, budgeting, licensing, assessment and curriculum.
- Local Program Review: Conduct annual paper and periodic on-site traffic education program reviews to monitor each local program and recommend appropriate changes to enhance program effectiveness.
- Educational Materials: Develop and make available a variety of educational materials for students, parents, teachers and the public.
- State Conference: Annually co-sponsor and conduct the State Traffic Education Conference for all traffic education instructional staff statewide

Source of Funds: Funds come from a portion of driver license fees.

OPI Subgrantees: Montana public school districts are eligible to receive a per/student reimbursement provided they run an OPI-approved program. The program requirements include approved instructors, vehicles, and organization.

OPI Funding: The administration funding for 2006–2008 is an annual appropriation of \$109,700.

Subgrantee Funding: The 2006-2008 funding level is approved for \$1,000,000 annually, but dependent upon special revenue (Revenue estimates are \$700,000 - \$850,000 per year). The funding is dispersed in August

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